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No. 8

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION SINCE 1877

'A unique worship experience' Former Oscar nominee keynotes Health Conf.

By William H. Perkins
Editor

The singer whose Christian movie theme stirred a recent Academy Award controversy will be the featured speaker at the Feb. 28 Health Conference at First Church, Jackson, sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Baptist Health Systems, Inc., in Jackson, and Summit Counseling of First Church, Jackson.

Joni Eareckson Tada, a Christian, longtime disability advocate, and herself a quadriplegic since a diving accident at the age of 17, will speak and conduct a book signing later with a selection of her books supplied by the LifeWay Book Store in Jackson.

Tada's song, *Alone Yet Not Alone*, the theme for the small-budget, independent movie of the same name, was nominated this year for an Academy Award.

The nomination came after the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences alleged the song was improperly promoted by its author.

However, at least one Hollywood insider said he believes the nomination was pulled after the Academy realized the movie was faith-based.

On the web

For more information, visit mbccb.org, and scroll down to the Health Conference icon.

Gerald Molen, the Oscar-winning producer of such movies as *Schindler's List* and *Jurassic Park*, wrote a letter to the Academy after the nomination was scrapped. "Every film, director, writer, cinematographer, actor, art director, costume designer, and efx house finds a way to pitch or promote their work. Many will see this decision as faith-based bigotry pure and simple," he wrote.

According to movieguide.com, *Alone Yet Not Alone* is based on the true story of the two Leininger sisters' abduction by the Delaware Indians in

|||||

on Sept. 27 of last year, is rated PG-13. A trailer can be viewed at aloneyetnotalone.com.

In addition to Tada, program personalities of the conference include:

see CONFERENCE on p. 5

IN THE NAME OF
JESUS
RISE
UP

MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

Health
Conference
2014

First Baptist Church
431 North State Street
Jackson MS 39201

Joni Eareckson Tada
and Friends

Hobby Lobby fights mandate

WASHINGTON (BP) — In a case that could reverberate for decades, Hobby Lobby filed a brief with the U.S. Supreme Court Feb. 10 asking the court to protect the religious liberty of the craft chain's owners in regard to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) contraception mandate.

Under the provisions of Obama Care, the federal mandate would require companies and institutions to pay for birth control — some of which induces abortion — regardless of religious convictions.

"Our argument at the Supreme Court is simple and straightforward: The plain terms of federal law protect religious exercise wherever it occurs — in the home, in a church, in a charity, or in a family business," said Kyle Duncan, general counsel for the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, which represents the Green family, owners of Hobby Lobby.

see MANDATE on p. 5

true
love
waits

True Love Waits documentary explores ministry's past, future

NASHVILLE (BP) — After 20 years and millions of pledge cards, has True Love Waits had a positive impact and does it still matter?

A new documentary by LifeWay Films examines the history and future of True Love Waits. The international purity movement captured the national conversation in 1994 by covering the National Mall in Washington, D.C., with cards from teenagers promising to remain sexually pure.

The documentary, *True Love Waits: The Complicated Struggle for Sexual Purity*, traces the story from the beginning to the present day relaunch, including the lives of individuals involved.

Scott Mills, executive producer of the movie and manager of LifeWay Films, said the documentary unflinchingly deals with the reality of what began as an idea sketched on a napkin that subsequently exploded into an international movement.

"Millions of teenagers of the past two decades have made commitments to stay pure," Mills said. "Many have kept those commitments and at the same time many have struggled."

"We knew from the beginning we wanted to address the criticisms as well as the successes of the True Love Waits movement," Travis Hawkins, documentary director, said. "We knew viewers would see through any spin we put on the story. We weren't afraid to have an honest conversation."

The documentary, available on DVD since Feb. 15, goes back to the cultural climate before True Love Waits. Many adults in America had given up hope that teenagers could refrain from sex, according to Richard Ross, a True Love Waits co-founder.

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From the editor

WILLIAM PERKINS

Valuing life

It was one of those truly touching stories in which we humans find reassurance of our humanity. Some time back and for no apparent reason, dozens of dolphins beached themselves along the Florida Keys.

There was a great stirring in the national news media over the plight of these poor creatures. Nearly half of them died, and two dozen other sickly dolphins were attended at the Marine Mammal Conservancy in Key Largo, FL. A call went out for volunteers to care for the remaining dolphins in around-the-clock shifts, and conservancy officials asked for urgently needed special care items such as Pedialyte, Gentamycin, multivitamins, gallon-size Zip-Loc bags, and gift certificates from Home Depot.

In addition to the stories pleading for volunteers and supplies, one widely-circulated report even came with an Associated Press photo of Marine Mammal Conservancy officials inserting a feeding tube into one of the weakest dolphins.

A feeding tube! Would that we had had so much sympathy for unborn babies and people like Terri Schiavo, the brain-damaged Florida woman who died a horrible death several years ago after her life-sustaining feeding tube was legally removed after a court fight and she starved/dehydrated to death.

What's wrong with this picture? The sicker a dolphin becomes, the more desperately we try to save its life. The sicker a human becomes, the swifter we try to take life from them. A dying dolphin receives sustenance at all costs, while a dying human is denied the same treatment and sentenced to an agonizing death.

To all thinking people of any age group or culture — Christian or not — this surely makes no sense. Is all innocent life precious, or is such a designation reserved only for animals lower than humans? If the latter is indeed the case, why? It is insane that a society that so passionately seeks to protect rare frogs, 500-year-old trees, and wetlands would so willingly turn its back on innocent human life.

Sadly, we live in an age that can no longer discern the difference between good and evil, and in many cases proclaims the goodness of evil. Equally as sad, we live

in an age when the first resort to any inconvenient situation, like that of Terri Schiavo and many others, is death — but only for the most innocent and defenseless humans involved.

Is your 15-year-old daughter embarrassingly pregnant out of wedlock? *Death to the baby!* Is your Alzheimer's-stricken mother inconveniently keeping you from living your life as you please? *Death to the elderly!* How about your father, a stroke victim languishing in a nursing home and inconsiderately consuming your inheritance day by day? *Death to the infirm!*

In some parts of the world — the Netherlands, for instance — all-ing humans can be put to sleep for no other reason than their scarce hospital bed is needed by someone else. Last week's news brought a story about the impending approval of euthanasia for children in Belgium. (It's already permitted in The Netherlands.)

In some authoritarian countries, a bucket of water rests at the foot of every delivery room table so that unwanted or "illegal" babies can be drowned immediately. In Texas, a special hospital bioethics committee can decide when it's time to pull the plug on a loved one without considering the family's wishes. In several U.S. states, medical professionals can legally assist in voluntary suicides. The list goes on.

In America, we condemn those who would save the life of the unborn and the elderly, while in the same breath applaud those who would save the life of one of God's lesser creatures. We are truly a schizophrenic people.

Is God pleased by such conduct? Judging by the Bible's unmistakable lessons, we will most certainly find out in the years to come.

Editor's note: The extreme winter weather across the Southeast early last week prevented a critical shipment of newsprint from reaching *The Baptist Record*. The newsprint that was already on site had to be used, which accounts for the oddly-formatted issue received last week by some subscribers. The *Baptist Record* will return to its normal format with this issue. The editor and staff of *The Baptist Record* apologize for the inconvenience.

How to start revival

Evan was involved in a small youth group at his home church until he went away to college. While at college his faith was tested, but eventually strengthened to the point that he felt compelled to return to his home church and share his passion for Christ with his youth group.

He shared his story one night with 17 students, who all were transformed as a result of hearing the simple four-point message:

■ You must confess any known sin to God, and put right any wrong done to man.

■ You must put away any doubtful habit out of your life.

■ You must obey the Spirit's promptings immediately.

■ You must confess your faith in Christ publicly.

This simple meeting began a movement of God which we now know as the Welsh Revival of 1904-05. Evan Roberts was a young college student who saw God's Spirit work powerfully resulting in a nation-sweeping movement.

In five months, more than 100,000 people were saved. The country was changed so much that courts had no cases to try, police had no crimes to solve, the birth rate for unwed mothers dropped by almost half in two counties, and the churches were filled in every town.

All this began with one college student fully surrendered to the Lord.

Most people today associate college students with some very dangerous and destructive behaviors such as drugs, alcohol, sex, parties, and irresponsibility. Based on experience and encounters I've had with students on the college campus, some of these characterizations can be true.

More than any other time in our history, the opportunities for sin and worldliness are available and acceptable in the culture in which we find ourselves. Collegians are surrounded not only by sinfulness, but increasingly they are practically expected to adhere to the godlessness which is advocated on almost every university campus in our nation.

If we are praying and believing God for spiritual awakening and revival, then more than anything, based on our understanding of how God has worked in all of



Guest opinion

with Jeff Jones

history, we should beg God for the hearts and lives of college students.

Almost every great movement of God has been sparked by the brokenness and desperation of college-aged individuals who long for God's Spirit to bring revival. As a matter of fact, many revivals began on secular college campuses after Christian students came face-to-face with God in prayer. One campus would affect another campus, and then it would spread to churches and even to public arenas.

The conviction of the Holy Spirit would wash over students, and they would become contagious as they boldly shared the Gospel as the basis of their transformed lives.

How can we pray for college students?

■ Pray that college students would understand the urgency to be submitted to the lordship of Jesus Christ every day. Ask God to protect them from a consumer approach to Christianity and the church so that they would see everything else as insignificant in comparison to knowing Christ and being found in Him.

■ Pray that college students would understand the demand of holiness on their lives that comes from Jesus. Pray that they take seriously the relationship of purity they have with the Father and seek to "be holy because I am holy." Pray that repentance and forsaking of sin would be a habit that defines their walk with God.

■ Pray that college students would join together in prayer groups and seek God while calling out the names of students who are lost. Pray that the Spirit of God would open their eyes to the conditions around them, and burden them for their campuses.

see JONES on p. 7

The Baptist Record

Editor
William H. Perkins Jr.
wperkins@mbcb.org

Associate Editor
Tony Martin
tmartin@mbcb.org

Layout/Design
Megin Young
myoung@mbcb.org

Advertising
Emily Jones
ejones@mbcb.org

Circulation Manager
Brandi Quattlebaum
bquattlebaum@mbcb.org

Editor Emeritus
Don McGregor

Baptist Record Advisory Committee:
Dwayne Parker, Flora
Paul Sims, Pontotoc
Barry Burris, Terry
Carl White, Meridian
Billie Buckley, Patai
Russell Mond, Sturgis

Postmaster:
Send changes of address to: The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530.

Send news, communication, and address changes to: The Editor, Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530.

Tel: (601) 968-3800
Fax: (601) 292-3330
E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org

BAPTISTS

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Miss. churches, seminary team up to evangelize Wyoming

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (BP) — When looking at the numbers, some might consider Wyoming to be an odd place for New Orleans Seminary (NOBTS) and a Mississippi church to partner for church planting and evangelism.

With approximately 576,000 residents, Wyoming is the least populous state in the nation. Cheyenne, the state capital and largest city, boasts only 91,000 residents in its metro area — but those involved with the partnership contend God is moving in Wyoming. People there are coming to faith in Christ.

When Brandon Church in Brandon invited students from NOBTS to come and see how God is working in Wyoming, they jumped at the opportunity.

In 2011, Brandon Church began a partnership with Southern Baptist church planters in Wyoming. So far, members of that church and other churches in Brandon have traveled to Wyoming five times to canvass neighborhoods in Casper, Cheyenne, Evansville, and Torrington. Most of the Brandon Church volunteers walking through the neighborhoods of Wyoming are in their 60s.

The church has deep ties to the seminary, and one of the church's members is a longtime donor. The member, who wishes to remain anonymous, had an idea: Why not involve seminary students in Brandon Church's church planting and evangelism efforts in Wyoming?

Such a partnership would supply extra workers during mission trips, and the experience would provide hands-on training for church planting students outside the Bible Belt. Even better, the church raised enough money to provide these trips to NOBTS students free of charge.

In the fall of 2012, Brandon Church launched the NOBTS partnership by taking three students and a professor to Cheyenne to help pastor Zack Edwards and Life Point Church, which was about a year old at the time.

NOBTS students and Brandon Church members canvassed the neighborhoods of Cheyenne, knocking on doors, sharing the Gospel, surveying residents and telling people about the church.

The students who went on the first trip were inspired by the tenacity and commitment of the older volunteers from Brandon Church. For the Brandon crew, interaction with the young seminary students offered hope for the future of the churches these ministers-in-training will one day lead.

Together, the mission team led several people to faith in Christ and developed many contacts for the church.

Brandon Church soon began dreaming of other ways to expand the NOBTS partnership to reach more people for Christ and help strengthen more churches in Wyoming.

Working with Don Whalen Jr., state missionary for church planting strategies for the Wyoming Southern Baptist Convention, the church developed a 10-week summer apprenticeship plan for seminary students. Six NOBTS students were selected for the first apprenticeship group in the summer of 2013.

"This high-velocity church planting experience provided NOBTS students with firsthand opportunities related to church planting on the mission field, as well as enabling these students to discover and develop their call to ministry and gain practical experience, confidence and skills in reaching new people groups with the Gospel," Whalen said.

Whalen designed the apprenticeship to make the most out of the summer, not only for the church planters who hosted NOBTS students but also for the students.

"It was a high priority in our planning that not only fruitful ministry take place but also that students would grow in their faith, confirm their call to ministry and grow in their church planting competency," he said.

As a result of their 10 weeks in Wyoming, the six students saw God impact many lives. That summer, 39 people

accepted Christ through ministry

opportunities in which the students were involved.

The students also grew in their faith and boldness. For at least one student, Laura Clark, the summer was a confirmation of her call to be a church planting strategist.

God often put the right students in the right place at the right time to share the Gospel with someone who was ready to respond. One example happened on the University of Wyoming campus in Laramie.

"It was a high priority in our planning that not only fruitful ministry take place but also that students would grow in their faith, confirm their call to ministry and grow in their church planting competency."

Don Whalen Jr.

Wyoming Southern Baptist Convention state missionary for church planting strategies

Andrei and Helga Parvu, a young seminary couple from Romania, apprenticed with Sam Martin of Laramie Valley Chapel. The Parvus decided to reach out to the University of Wyoming international student office to find out if the school had students from their home country.

Wyoming did have one Romanian student, a tennis player. Andrei and Helga met with the student and discovered that she was an agnostic. After the Parvus shared their own experience of coming to Christ, the Romanian student committed her life to Christ.

The NOBTS summer apprentices were so successful in assisting the churches that Brandon Church and the Wyoming convention are planning to continue the program in the summer of 2014.

Last fall, 10 NOBTS students went on a whirlwind mission trip to Cheyenne. The students knocked on hundreds of doors in the windswept city on the western plains. They shared the Gospel, conducted surveys, and invited people to attend Life Point Church, a church plant located just miles from the state capitol building.

The task of knocking on doors was challenging at first. Some of the visits did not go well but for the most part,

the response

was at least cordial even if the residents were not open to the Gospel.

Corey Hicks and Nicole Powell, two of the NOBTS students on the trip, experienced what some might describe as a divine appointment on the first day at their first door.

As one group of four NOBTS students parked on the corner of a tree-lined street in Cheyenne, Hicks and Powell noticed a man shuffling by with a brown paper bag. They paid him little attention as they gathered church flyers, Gospel tracts, and a stack of community surveys. One team of two would walk down one side of the street; the other two would take the other side of the street. Since they anticipated a long day of going door-to-door, they prayed and went to work.

When Corey and Nicole knocked on the first door on their side of the street, they immediately recognized the man at the door — the guy with the brown paper bag. The man was very open to talk with them. He immediately confessed that he was an alcoholic and said he had been to the store that morning to buy a big can of beer, which he had with him in the bag.

The man said he wanted a way out of his addiction. Corey and Nicole shared the Gospel message, telling the man that nothing is beyond God's power. Through Jesus, they said, God would forgive him of his sins and change him.

The man was overcome with conviction and made a commitment to Christ on the spot. Then he did something amazing. The man pulled the tab on the large beer he had purchased earlier and poured it out beside his porch.

The five-day trip proved to be a success. The seminary group, part of a team that included 17 volunteers from Baptist churches in Mississippi, handed out close to 3,000 flyers about the Life Point Church, shared the Gospel numerous times, collected 120 prospect cards, and led at least seven people to faith in Christ.

Days after the team returned to New Orleans, Life Point Church began seeing results from the volunteer efforts. Twelve new people visited the church that first Sunday. The next week there were more visitors, and two people accepted Christ during the service.

One who made a decision for Christ was a 10-year-old boy whose family came because of a flyer left on their door.



It was one of those super cold, end of January mornings with a wind chill factor in the single digits, but at the same time it was bright and sunny. It was bone chilling cold, but a beautiful day. I was outside and heard the beautiful sounds of a songbird. I looked up and all around trying to find where the music was coming from and there in a totally leafless tree was one Redbird, a beautiful Cardinal singing its heart out. I stood there in the cold winter morning watching and listening. I looked around and no one else in the neighborhood was out. I even looked around to see if there were other Redbirds in the area. There was not another sound, and I did not see another bird of any kind. He kept on singing and he wasn't just making sounds; he was enthusiastic and was filling the air with some kind of exciting praise. Then I realized that I was an audience of one.

And so I stood there in the cold with my heart warmed by this one magnificent bird. The longer that I stood there and listened as the bird continued to sing the more I was blessed. The more I was blessed the more lessons I gleaned from what was happening not only to my ears but to my heart. Several times as there was a pause maybe for the songbird to catch a breath or to shift gears, I wanted to say thank you. But I thought that it would probably scare the Redbird away. I did not want to do that so I just listened, thought and remembered how many things God places around us in order to bless us and teach us.

The wise Solomon said, "Go to the ant, you sluggard! Consider her ways and be wise" (Prov. 6:6). Jesus said, "Aren't two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them falls to the ground



With Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

Directions

An Audience of One

without your Father's consent" (Matt. 10:29). It was our Lord who also pointed out that we needed to look at the lilies of the field. "So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these" (Matt. 6:28-29). I continued to listen and learn.

One of the lessons that came to my heart is that you never know when your song or your service will be helpful to someone's life and maybe even a life changing moment for someone. You are not aware of it, but an audience of one is watching from a distance. Jesus, the Master Teacher, was always alert and watching for that audience of one. Even in a huge crowd swirling around Him, He saw one man up in a Sycamore tree, and the whole moment was focused on him. Jesus saw one lady

coming to the well to draw water at mid-day and recognized that this was the moment for her to have an experience with the living Savior.

The Book of Acts tells us that Philip was keenly aware of one person as he walked along in the desert area of Gaza. He heard a chariot coming and saw a man reading from the prophet Isaiah. It was time to share the song of the Savior with him.

How often do we get caught up in the crowds that may come to see us sing, preach or teach and lose sight of the one person that you may not recognize or even know who God has brought there to be an audience of one for the message that you are sharing and the love of Jesus that you are portraying? Now here is the fact. You never know who is listening and paying attention not just to what you say, but to what the Lord is doing through you. It doesn't matter if you are teaching a class of preschoolers or senior

adults, leading a choir in preparation, helping the congregation in focusing on praising God or preaching a sermon about one of the great doctrines. You do not know who is actually listening and not just to your voice but to the Spirit of God making application in a life.

Years ago at a Sunday evening worship service we sang, prayed and preached. I thought it was just another Sunday night service, but as I gave the invitation a man, who was in his 80's, came down the aisle to make his profession of faith in Jesus. I had no idea of what was going on in his life and heart. I had no knowledge of the struggle that had gone on in his life since he was a young teenager. I had no understanding of the family in which he had grown up that was not anti-God or Christ but was not particular in favor of the church either. And so, for decades he came to church sometimes regularly and at other times spasmodically always struggling with the need of giving his life to Christ.

Looking back on that night, I realized that I had no idea of the significance of the things I was preaching and the applications of the family in which he had grown up that was not anti-God or Christ but was not particular in favor of the church either. And so, for decades he came to church sometimes regularly and at other times spasmodically always struggling with the need of giving his life to Christ. Looking back on that night, I realized that I had no idea of the significance of the things I was preaching and the applications of the family in which he had grown up that was not anti-God or Christ but was not particular in favor of the church either. And so, for decades he came to church sometimes regularly and at other times spasmodically always struggling with the need of giving his life to Christ.

The author can be contacted at directions@mbcb.org.

College News



Sarah Beth Sewell, a sophomore vocal performance major from Starkville, was crowned Miss **WILLIAM CAREY UNIVERSITY** 2014 at the Miss WCU Scholarship Pageant on February 4. She was also the preliminary talent winner. She is the daughter of Billy and Beth Sewell. Shown, from left, are R-Reonna James of Wiggins, first runner up and interview winner; Ashley Barding of Petal, second runner up; Sewell; Katie Sims of Purvis, third runner up, evening gown winner and Highest GPA, and Hannah Taylor of Covington, La., fourth runner up and Virginia Scott Spirit Award winner.



Callie Shirley, a freshman nursing student from Madison, won the 2014 Miss **MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE** pageant Jan. 30. Callie is a graduate of Madison Central High School, and won the Miss Southland Outstanding Teen Pageant in 2012. She is the daughter of Barri and Tammy Shirley of Madison. (Photo courtesy of Aaron Boersma.)

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE'S nationally ranked table tennis team triumphed at the Feb. 11 Dodge Division tournament on the Clinton campus. New players combined with skilled MC veterans to seal the victory at Alumni Gym over teams like Tulane, Alabama-Birmingham, West Florida, Alabama-Huntsville and Mississippi State University. Shown are table tennis player Jun Yu Xiao, table tennis coach Ken Qiu, players Zescheng Huang and Joe Xie, Vice President for Academic Affairs Ron Howard, and players Tyler Brogdon, Yichi Zhang, and Cheng Li. Front row: assistant table tennis coach Johnson Liang.



Students and administrators from **BLUE MOUNTAIN COLLEGE** visited with North Mississippi Sen. Bill Stone (D, Ashland), right, at the state Capitol during the recent day recognizing Mississippi Independent Colleges and Universities. Making the trip to Jackson were: Nathan Rodgers, Jenna Rodgers, Barbara Childers McMillin, Emily Russell, and Macy Watkins.

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS.

Matthew 10:27 NAS

February 20, 2014

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.

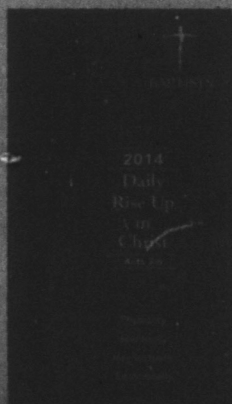
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HEALTH CONFERENCE



February 28, 2014

6:30-4:45 PM

FBC, Jackson

Featured Speaker: Jani Eareckson Tada

Jani Eareckson Tada, the founder and Chief Executive Officer of Jani and Friends, an international ministry for people with disabilities, is the only woman to have been named one of the 100 most powerful women in the world by Time magazine. After two years of international ministry, she has returned to her home in Mississippi to help others in various ministries. In 2003, she wrote her memoir, "The First 100," chronicling her journey and the challenges she faced. She is the author of "The Power of Healing: How to Heal Your Body, Mind, and Spirituality Through Prayer and Faith."

Practical Health
6:00-6:30 p.m. **Practical Health**
6:30-6:45 p.m. **Practical Health**
6:45-7:00 p.m. **Practical Health**
7:00-7:15 p.m. **Practical Health**
7:15-7:30 p.m. **Practical Health**
7:30-7:45 p.m. **Practical Health**
7:45-8:00 p.m. **Practical Health**

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND RESOURCES
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MISSISSIPPI KIDS CAMP 2014

INFINITE

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PSALM 100:5

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Camp II - June 26-28, 2014

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Church Building Conference

March 13, 2014

Baptist Building, Skyroom

8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

For more information contact the
Pastor Leadership Development Department at
1-800-748-1651, ext. 305, or 601-292-3305, or
E-mail at cwtaylor@mbcb.org.

LIFEWAY'S Agency DB

DISCOVER DECIDE DEFEND | PETER 3:15

VBS KICK-OFF

March 8, 2014

9 a.m. - noon

Richland, Mississippi
Community Center

410 E Harper St. in Richland (behind Walmart)

For more information contact the Sunday School Dept.,
MBCB: Angie Boydston at aboystun@mbcb.org or Jo
Wasson at jwasson@mbcb.org or 1-800-748-1651, ext. 292,
or 601-292-3292.

PARENTING/GRANDPARENTING CONFERENCES

FBC, COFFEEVILLE
TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2014

6:30
LIGHT SUPPER

7:15
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. "PARENTING" LED BY REV. CHRIS WEBB, MADISON
AUTHOR OF "1, 2, 3 MAGIC FOR CHRISTIAN PARENTS"
2. "SEE SOMETHING NEW IN GRANDPARENTING"
LED BY GLENN SHOWS, MBCB

8:30
ADJOURN

HANDOUTS.....DOOR PRIZES.....MUCH MORE!!!

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MK RE-ENTRY RETREAT

July 28—August 1, 2014
Gaylewa Camp and Conference Center
Clinton, MS



MK [em-kay] noun: Missionary Kid

The MK Re-Entry Retreat is for children of international missionaries who are entering college in the United States for the first time. The retreat provides a setting for MKs to process the transition to college and life in the U.S. Approximately 100 students attend this event each year.

Involve your church by Adopting an MK and/or contributing to a Gift Card!

Responsibilities if you Adopt an MK:

- Your \$100 donation, which will be used to purchase select school items for your student
- Your commitment to pray for your student during the MK Re-Entry Retreat
- Your commitment to pray for your student during his/her first year of college

Gift Cards will be given to all MK students to be used as they settle into college.

Please contact WMU for an adoption form or for more information.
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webcast

Is Your Student Bible Study Healthy?

Student Webcast Training • March 13, 2014

Student Leadership Trainer
Live Webcast from 6:30-8 p.m.
Thursday, March 13, 2014

Topics:

- The Narrow Window of Opportunity for Reaching Students
- Why Students are Bored with Sunday School/Small Groups
- Raising the Bar in Your Student Ministry
- Understanding Your Role as a Student Ministry Leader

Leaders:

Chris Swain, Student Publishing, LifeWay
Kenny Stanteen, Student Minister, FBC, Clinton

Q & A to follow topical presentation. Join with us at no cost from your church, home or wherever you are by internet on your computer/laptop, phone, tablet, iPod.

Connect with us at 6:30 on 3/13/14 by going to:
www.mbc.org/ssleadertraining

Sponsored by: Sunday School Department, MBCB. Any questions, e-mail cday@mbcb.org.

MS WMU HISTORICAL BUS TRIP TO MARYLAND

June 5-13, 2014
Come Celebrate 125 Years of WMU
Total costs:

Single - \$1525/person Double - \$1125/person Triple/Quad - \$950/person
o \$250 deposit due by April 4

o Trip includes: tour of national WMU offices in Birmingham, Annie Armstrong and WMU history sites in Baltimore as part of the WMU Annual Meeting; tours of IMB and International Learning Center in/near Richmond and visits to Lottie Moon sites around Virginia.

o We are partnering with Louisiana WMU for this bus trip, great fellowship is ahead!

For more information contact the MS WMU • Phone at 1-800-748-1651 ext. 323 or 601-292-3328

Pray this day for...

February 21– March 6, 2014

"Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord..." Psalm 1:1,2

Pray for: **Tony & Denita Immon**, missionaries ministering to American Peoples through church planting & church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **Lew & Brandi Johnson**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples.

Pray for: **Millard & Susan Jones**, missionaries ministering to East Asian Peoples through student evangelism.

Pray for: **John & Melinda Kyzar**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples through personalization & church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **Timothy & Rebecca Lightsey**, missionaries ministering to American Peoples through strategy coordination, church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **Michael & Patricia Holyfield**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples.

Pray for: **Daniel & Claudia Hood**, missionaries ministering to North African & Middle Eastern Peoples through church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **Bob & Amy Little**, missionaries ministering to Sub-Saharan African Peoples.

Pray for: **Asbury & Jeannie Martin**, missionaries ministering to American Peoples through church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **Robert & Janice Mooney**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples through strategy coordination, church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **Stephen & Svetlana Parish**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples through strategy coordination, church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **Kevin & Brenda Peacock**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples through theological education, church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **John & Sarah Perkins**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples through mission support, church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **Michael & Sarah Prewitt**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples through church planting, church/home outreach & evangelism.

The IMB missionaries listed in the HouseTops prayer calendar are currently active in 2-4 year terms or in career service.

Marriages Celebration EVENING

Friday, April 4, 2014
Garaywa Camp & Conference Center
Patterson Place, Clinton

Special Guest Speaker:
Chris Webb, The Family Coaching Clinic Director

Cost: \$10 per couple.

Deadline to register is March 28, 2014.

Patterson Place is available for lodging if you wish to spend the night. The cost is \$100 per couple. No meals are included in this cost. Deadline to register for lodging is March 28. Send payment for lodging and/or conference. Make check payable to: MBCB.

Send payment to:

Discipleship and Family Ministry Dept.
PO Box 530, Jackson MS 39205

Contact information: Glenn Shows gshows@mbcb.org or 800-748-1851 ext. 373
or Debbie Brashier dbrashier@mbcb.org or 601-292-3284

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\$20 per camper, per day

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Girls who have completed the 3rd-6th grades
• June 9-13 • June 30-July 4
• June 16-20 • July 7-11
• June 23-27 • July 14-18

Missions Camp for Students
Girls who have complete the 7th-12 grades
• June 23-27
• July 7-11

Day Camp
Boys & girls who have completed the 1st-6th grades
July 21, 22, 23

For more info, please call Karen, 601-924-7034
Registration available online

www.garaywa.org

HOUSE TOPS

MANDATE

cont. from p. 1

"There's no loophole in the First Amendment that excludes people who run a business."

The high court is scheduled to hear arguments in the case March 25. Hobby Lobby's brief explains that the U.S. Constitution and civil rights laws protect citizens from being forced to comply with the HHS mandate.

"The Greens do not object to covering 16 out of 20 FDA-approved contraceptives," Duncan said in a press conference after the brief was filed. "In fact, their company's generous health plan covers all

mandated services for women with the exception of only four contraceptive methods that can terminate human life in the womb.

"Yet if the Greens do not comply with the mandate, they'll expose their businesses to severe fines and other damaging consequences."

Hobby Lobby estimates that it would face fines of \$1.3 million per day if it does not comply with the mandate.

Steve Green, the company's president, told Fox News it would be cheaper for the company to discontinue health insurance benefits and pay the fine for noncompliance, which is just \$2,000 per employee compared to \$36,500 per employee for re-

fusing to supply the four controversial contraceptives.

The U.S. 10th Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver ruled in Hobby Lobby's favor last July, recognizing that people do not forfeit their consciences simply because they run a business. The court also recognized the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, passed by the U.S. Congress and signed by U.S. President Bill Clinton in 1993 with bipartisan support, guaranteed Hobby Lobby an exemption from the mandate by preserving the free exercise of faith.

Hobby Lobby's Supreme Court brief calls the HHS mandate "one of the most straightforward violations" of the Religious Freedom Restoration

Act the court is likely to see.

"Our laws have long protected people of conscience from having to betray their consciences," Duncan said, "whether it's Jehovah's Witnesses who cannot bear arms, Quakers who cannot swear oaths, Orthodox Jews who cannot sell non-Kosher foods, or Christians who cannot participate in the death penalty."

"The same principle protects people who run a business from being forced to betray their deepest convictions about human life."

The question in the case, Duncan said, is "whether profits and religion can never mix."

"That is a strange idea, and nothing in the law supports it.

Maybe some business owners pay attention to only the bottom line, but not the Greens, who've always put their faith before profits, which is why they close all of their Hobby Lobby stores on Sundays," Duncan said.

Last week when CVS drug stores announced they would no longer sell tobacco products, the federal government hailed the decision as one that could save lives, Duncan said.

"So it appears to be common sense: The corporations and the people who run them can and should have many purposes besides pursuing the almighty dollar," Duncan said. "The Greens are simply saying that their religious faith can be one of those purposes."

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MS POSITIONS

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN KOSCIUSKO, MS IS SEEKING A FULL TIME CHILDREN'S MINISTER. Please send resume to First Baptist Church, Attn: Personnel Committee, P.O. Box 70, Kosciusko, MS 39090.

INDIAN SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH IN LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI, IS IN IMMEDIATE NEED OF A PART-TIME MUSIC DIRECTOR. If interested, send resume to Indian Springs Baptist Church, 500 Indian Springs Church Road, Laurel, MS 39443

BUCATUNNA BAPTIST CHURCH (SHELL ENERGY COMMUNITY CLARKE CO.) 10806 COUNTY ROAD 514, MERIDIAN, MS 39301, IS PRAYERFULLY SEARCHING FOR A PART TIME YOUTH/CHILDREN MINISTER. For more information please send resume to above address, C/O Youth Minister Committee, or Resume can be emailed to tshe3675@aol.com

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UNION BAPTIST CHURCH NEAR SEMINARY IS PRAYERFULLY SEARCHING FOR A PART TIME MINISTER OF YOUTH. For more information, call Noah at 601-517-9622 or email nies514@yahoo.com.

MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH, SMITHDALE, MS IS PRAYERFULLY SEARCHING FOR A BI-VOCATIONAL MINISTER OF MUSIC. Resumes may be emailed to joycehilton@bellsouth.net or mailed to: Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Attention: Minister of Music Search Committee, 5569 Hwy 570, Smithdale, MS 38664

STEELE BAPTIST CHURCH IN FOREST, MS, IS SEEKING A FULL TIME PASTOR/PREACHER. Please send resumes to: Steele Baptist Church, c/o Glyn Edwards, 8977 Hwy 21, Forest, MS 39074 or email to chamell_sharp@att.net

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PART-TIME YOUTH PASTOR SEARCH. Send resumes to: Calvary Baptist Church Attn: Youth Committee P.O. Box 86 Fulton, MS 38843

CONFERENCE

cont. from p. 1

■ Jim Futral, executive director of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, on the topics of spiritual and intellectual health.

■ Barbie Sullivan, an OB/GYN physician affiliated with Baptist Health Systems, Inc., on the topic of physical health.

■ L. Lavon Gray, worship pastor at First Church, Jackson, who will lead music for the conference.

There is no conference fee. No pre-registration is required. Doors to the Sanctuary at First Church, Jackson, will open at 5 p.m., and the conference will run from 6 p.m. — 8:45 p.m. Early arrival is encouraged as a full house is expected and seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, visit mbcb.org, and scroll down to the Health Conference icon.

"The Lord has put together a unique worship experience for men, women, and students. The Health Conference will be one of a kind, based on the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's 2014 theme, In the Name of Jesus Rise Up! (Acts 3)," said Steve Stone, conference organizer and associate executive director for church growth at the convention board.


"Our speakers have never shared the stage together and will not likely share it again. Jesus calls every person to deal with their health on a daily basis. Come and hear a preacher, Jim Futral; a physician, Barbie Sullivan; and Joni Eareckson Tada share the life changing message of Jesus as they deal with our physical, spiritual, intellectual and emotional health.

"You will be encouraged and blessed as we encounter the Living Lord Jesus."

The conference is being funded by gifts to the Mississippi Cooperative Program.

YFest 2014


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DOCUMENTARY

cont. from p. 1

"It was as if the big powerful people, the people that are smart, the people that are knowledgeable, are saying teenagers are out of control," Ross said.

In the midst of this environment, Ross and Jimmy Hester, then director of student ministry at LifeWay, created True Love Waits. They saw it take off immediately with students at Ross' church, Tulip Grove Church in Old Hickory, TN.

True Love Waits began to garner national headlines and amazement from many in the news media. "They couldn't believe students would stand up and make statements about their beliefs about abstinence," Hester said.

To practically measure the success of True Love Waits, Ross points to an unbroken increase in teenage sexuality from 1973-93, after which it plateaued and declined for 20 years.

Hawkins said, "At the outset, I confess I thought of True Love Waits as dated and kind of irrelevant. I had no idea the kind of impact it did have."

The film also documents True Love Waits' impact in nations ravaged with AIDS, the deadly disease contracted mainly through unprotected sex with an infected individual.

"Before True Love Waits came to Uganda, one out of three adults was dying of AIDS," Ross said. "After True Love Waits, it's about one out of 10 or one out of 11, and the statistics are getting better by the day."

Susan Bohannon became a teenage spokesperson for the movement in the U.S., appearing on national television shows and newspapers. She struggled at college under the pressure of being one of the poster children for teenage virginity.

"When we conducted our initial interview with her, it was clear to me there was more to

her story, but she was reluctant to share it," Hawkins said. "After a few conversations, Susan agreed to share the rest of her story. It took a lot of bravery on her part. Susan really illustrates



BOHANNON

She then felt emotionally numb and distant from God, she said.

"I felt very shameful about even trying to talk to Him or sincerely worshipping because I knew that I was so far away, but I wasn't sure how to get back," she recalled.

To Clayton King, author of the curriculum relaunching True Love Waits, Bohannon's story exemplifies the need to return the movement to a focus on the purity found in Christ and how that plays itself out.

"I want people to know they are pure because Jesus purified them from sin, not because they have perfect behavior and have never had intercourse or looked at porn," King said. "The good news is that temptation, lust, porn, sex, shame, and guilt are no match for the grace that Jesus offers us."

That resonated with Bohannon. "The message of True Love Waits is not about being a good person or being good or doing good things. The message of True Love Waits is about true love and no one displays true love better than Christ himself."

Mills hopes parents who view the documentary will be "challenged to talk to their kids about sex." He also would like to see it "build within students a desire to follow Jesus and recognize purity as a result of that relationship."

how complicated the issue of sexual purity is."

Succumbing to the peer pressure and mocking of those around her, Bohannon had sex in college.

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NEMNMO UNUFW-UNHL: LCLHLA

Clue: J = P

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Proverbs 22:6

By Charles Marx, 1932-2004. © 2005

Need a light?

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)

If you make a decision for Christ today, contact a local Southern Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

Submission Guidelines

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. News items and/or photographs depicting benefits and activities for secular or outside organizations will not be published.

Preferred method: news may be submitted electronically to the e-mail address below, and must be included in the message segment of an e-mail form. Secondary method: news may be typewritten or neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper and mailed. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone. Due to ever-present virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments in JPEG format are permissible.

Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs must be submitted electronically

via e-mail, as attachments in JPEG format. Hard copy photographs mailed through the postal service will not be accepted. Photographs must be clear, sharp, and well-lighted. Photographs must depict people. No landscape, building, or object-only photographs will be printed. Photographs containing inappropriate gestures and objectionable clothing will not be published. Cell phone photographs and other low resolution items that do not reproduce well on newsprint are generally not publishable.

There is no guarantee that news items and/or photographs will be published, and unsolicited material will not be acknowledged or returned. All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to cropping. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date. Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis. These guidelines are not meant to be exhaustive.

Submit news to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.

Follow with Renewed Purpose • John 21:3-7a, 15-17-20-23

Simon Peter decided to go fishing one night during the intense time after the resurrection and before Jesus' ascension into Heaven. Thomas, Nathanael, James, John and a couple of other disciples decided to go with him. They went fishing at night, as was customary, and caught nothing.

"But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus," John 21:4 (KJV). John does not tell us why the disciples didn't know it was Jesus but the reason may have been as simple as they were too far away. Jesus called across the water with the normal question to any fishermen. Did you catch anything? With the normal disgust of unlucky fishermen, the disciples hollered back, no. They still did not realize it was Jesus on the shore asking the question. Jesus called back "Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find." John 21:6 (KJV).

When the disciples tried one last desperate attempt to catch fish they caught 153 "great fishes." Even before they pulled the fish to land where they could count them, John realized the fullness of the nets was miraculous. "Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord," John 21:7.

Simon Peter, being Peter, realized it was Jesus and jumped into the water because he could do that quicker than the boat could get to shore. "As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread," John 21:9 (KJV).

"Jesus saith unto them, Come and dine," John 21:12. Jesus is always asking us to join Him and enjoy fellow-

ship with Him. To this day it is natural for Christians and Christian churches to gather around a meal to celebrate Christ's love for us and His provision for us. "None of the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou? Knowing that it was the Lord," John 21:12 (KJV). John is recounting this warm personal interaction between his Lord and his fellow disciples to again reassure us of Jesus' resurrection from the dead. "This is now the third time Jesus showed himself to his disciples, after that he was risen from the dead," John 21:14 (KJV).

Explore the Bible
with Don Hicks

It is in this warm personal setting that Jesus chooses to restore Peter to his full ministry and leadership. Peter had denied Christ three times the night of His betrayal and illegal night time trial. So 3 times Jesus asks Simon son, of Jonas, "lovest thou me?" And each time Peter answers "Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee." John 21:15, 16, & 17 (KJV). Notice in verse 17 "Peter was

grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me?" and Peter intensified his answer to the Lord saying, "Lord thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee."

As Jesus' challenged Peter each time Peter said "Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee." Jesus' replied "Feed my lambs (or sheep)." We are to live out our love for Jesus Christ. James 2:15-18 states this truth this way "If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled;

notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works." (KJV).

After Jesus had personally challenged Peter to feed His sheep, Peter tried to deflect the intensity of Jesus' teaching by this question about John, "Then Peter, turning about seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee? Peter seeing him saith to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man do? Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? Follow thou me," John 21:20-22 (KJV). Jesus is telling Peter no matter what happens to someone else you should "Follow thou me."

In somewhat of an aside, John has to speak to a false rumor that was leading to a damaging heresy. Some thought and repeated to others that Jesus had said that John would not die until Jesus returned.

Hicks is a member of Brandon Church, Brandon.

If God is Good, Why is There Suffering? • Job 30:26-31; 42:1-6

When the storm of suffering blew into Job's life with hurricane force strength, he lost his children, his possessions, his cattle and his health. After hearing of all the disasters that had befallen him, Job tore his robe, and shaved his head, and fell down on the ground and worshipped, saying, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I shall return there. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away. Blessed be the name of the LORD. Through all this Job did not sin nor did he blame God" (Job 1:21-22 NASB).

As Job's suffering increased, however, he became more and more despondent. In verses 26-31 Job looked for good and waited for light, hoping for better things, but found only more suffering. Job, in his prosperity, had helped others in need who were suffering, yet he found no one to help him. Even God seemed to be silent. Churning on the inside he couldn't find rest. It was as if all were blackness within him. He had reminisced about the good old days that were past, but now felt there was nothing to look forward to again. He compared himself to being a brother to dragons, and a companion to owls, perhaps relating himself to a wild beast left to the elements with moans and howls. His body burned with fever, and he was

tormented inside and out with no answers. The joyful music from his harp became songs of mourning.

Job wanted to know the reason for his suffering. One day God finally granted him an audience, answering him out of a whirlwind. God's response, however, was different than Job had anticipated. God offered him no explanation, but rather challenged Job with ques-

tions that he could not answer, questions like: "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Have you entered the treasury of the snow? Do you know the ordinances of the heavens?" (Job 38:4a, 22a, 33a). Questions to remind Job of the sovereignty of God, a God who doesn't have to defend His actions or explain Himself.

Job finally understood that his knowledge was limited while God's knowledge and power were unlimited. He said to God, "I know that You can do all things; no purpose of yours can

be thwarted" (Job 42:1, NIV). Job realized that God was there all the time, working out His plan in the midst of his suffering, and Job realized that he had uttered things he did not understand. He lacked the comprehension of what God was doing.

Until now, it seems that Job's knowledge of God had been indirect and impersonal; but that was changed after his audience with God. Job uttered, "My ears have heard of You, but now my eyes have seen You" (Job 42:5). Job's re-

sponse to that revelation was immediate repentance in dust and ashes.

"Job's greatest blessing was not the regaining of his health and wealth or the rebuilding of his family and circle of friends. His greatest blessing was knowing God better and understanding His working in a deeper way. As James wrote, You have heard of the perseverance of Job, and seen the purpose of the Lord, that the Lord is very compassion-

ate and merciful" (Warren Wiersbe) (James 5:11, NKJV).

If you are walking through great suffering now and you're a child of God, remember that you are never alone. David, the shepherd king, though greatly blessed, suffered failure, defeat, heart-break and sorrow. He wrote in Psalm 103:13-14, "As a father loves and pities his children, so the Lord loves and pities those who fear Him [with reverence, worship, and awe]. For He knows our frame, He [earnestly] remembers and imprints [on His heart] that we are dust" (The Amplified Bible).

"If we believe in God and believe that all things are under His control, and that His holy plans will not be thwarted by the work of humankind or Satan, then we may find comfort, consolation, and encouragement in the face of struggle even though we lack understanding. That is the essence of trust" (Herschel Hobbs Commentary, Winter 2013-14).

Be a blessing to those you know who are walking the path of suffering. Pray for them, and go a step further: do for them what you would want them to do for you in a similar situation. You will be blessed!

Foster is a member of Murphy Creek Church, Louisville.

Bible Studies for Life
with Patsy Foster

JONES

cont. from p.2

■ Pray that college students would take responsibility and ownership of their faith, investing themselves in the lives of others who will come to Christ,

share the Gospel and live holy lives as well. Paul's charge to Timothy was, "No one should despise your youth; instead, you should be an example to the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12).

■ Pray that God's Spirit and His Word would become the standards from which students make life decisions such as whom to date, whom to marry, what occupation they will enter, what friendships they will value. The college years in our

culture are when most adults make major decisions that shape the rest of their lives. Pray that they will follow Jesus in these choices.

College students are not the future of our church; they are the church. Take some time today to

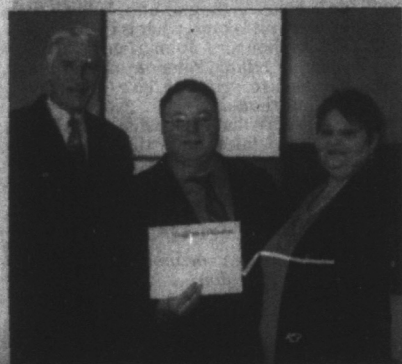
love, invest in and pray for the college students in your life.

Jones is the Baptist College Ministry campus minister at the University of Memphis. His commentary appears courtesy of Baptist Press.

Just for the Record



Students from **FLOWOOD CHURCH, FLOWOOD**, attended the Xtreme Winter Conference in Gatlinburg, Tenn.



CLIFF TEMPLE CHURCH, NATCHEZ, ordained Mickey Alexander to the ministry of preaching. Shown are pastor Russell Wagoner, and Mickey & Tina Alexander.

In other Church News:

► **First Church, Runnelstown**, is hosting The McKameys in concert Feb. 20. Love offering. For more information, call (601) 583-4733.



CRESTVIEW CHURCH, PETAL, held a reception for Stephen Smith and his family honoring his six years as pastor Feb. 2.



The youth and children of **ROUNDAWAY CHURCH, DODDSVILLE**, decorated their Christmas tree before the Christmas program Dec. 7, 2013.



The children of **CALVARY CHURCH, SMITHDALE**, celebrated the love of Christ at their Valentine's Party Feb. 9.

THEIR EMPIRE WAS KINGDOM

SON OF GOD

IN THEATRES FEBRUARY 28

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